

# **EXHIBIT G**

Videotaped Deposition of  
**Tracy Wolff**  
March 07, 2023

Freeman

vs.

Deebs

**Confidential**



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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

2 LYNNE FREEMAN, )  
3 AN INDIVIDUAL )  
4 PLAINTIFF, )  
5 VS. )  
6 TRACY DEEBS-ELKENANEY )  
7 P/K/A TRACY WOLFF, AN )  
8 INDIVIDUAL, EMILY SYLVAN )  
9 KIM, AN INDIVIDUAL, )  
10 PROSPECT AGENCY, LLC, A )  
11 NEW JERSEY LIMITED ) CASE NO. 1:22-CV-02435-LLS  
12 LIABILITY COMPANY, )  
13 ENTANGLED PUBLISHING, )  
14 LLC, A DELAWARE LIMITED )  
15 LIABILITY COMPANY, )  
16 HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, )  
17 LLC D/B/A MACMILLAN, )  
18 A NEW YORK LIMITED )  
19 LIABILITY COMPANY, AND )  
20 UNIVERSAL CITY STUDIOS, ) JOB NO. 10115799  
21 LLC, A DELAWARE )  
22 LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY )  
23 DEFENDANTS. )

24 \*\*\*\*\*

25 ORAL AND VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF  
TRACY WOLFF  
MARCH 07, 2023

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ORAL AND VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION of TRACY WOLFF,  
produced as a witness at the instance of the Plaintiff,  
and duly sworn, was taken in the above-styled and  
numbered cause on the 7th day of March, 2023, from 8:54  
a.m. to 4:34 p.m., before Gabriela S. Silva, CSR, RPR in  
and for the State of Texas, reported by stenograph, at  
the Law Offices of Kowert, Hood, Munyon, Rankin &  
Goetzel, 1120 S. Capital of Texas Hwy, Building 2,  
Austin, Texas, pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil  
Procedure and the provisions stated on the record or  
attached hereto.

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## A P P E A R A N C E S

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## ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. Walter Bryan, Videographer  
Mr. Trent Baer, Plaintiff's Husband  
Mr. Lance Koonce (via Zoom)  
Mr. Zachary Press (via Zoom)  
Mr. Stephen Doniger (via Zoom)  
Mrs. Lynne Freeman (via Zoom)

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1 have to answer the question unless she instructs you not  
2 to answer the question. So it's very important that you  
3 understand my questions because you'll be testifying  
4 under penalty of perjury. You understand what that  
5 means?

6 A. I do, yes.

7 Q. So if you don't understand one of the questions,  
8 you know, feel free to tell me that and I'll try to  
9 rephrase it so that you can understand it.

10 A. Okay.

11 Q. You understand those instructions?

12 A. I do, yes.

13 Q. Is there any reason today because of lack of  
14 sleep or medication that you can't testify?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Okay. And are you represented by counsel today?

17 A. I am, yes.

18 Q. And who is that?

19 A. My counsel is Dwayne Goetzel, Nancy Wolff and  
20 CeCe Cole.

21 Q. You've definitely lawyered up. All right. What  
22 names have -- what pen names have you used over the  
23 years?

24 A. I've written as Tracy Deebs, Tracy Wolff, Ivy  
25 Adams and Tessa Adams.

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1 Q. I will refer to you most of the time throughout  
2 this deposition as Tracy Wolff or Mrs. Wolff. Is that  
3 understood?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Okay. And that's okay with you?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Is it correct that you used the pen name Tracy  
8 Wolff when you wrote the Crave book series?

9 A. Yes, it is.

10 Q. Another thing I should mention is you have to  
11 answer audibly because as good as the court reporter is,  
12 and I'm sure she's excellent, she can't take down nods  
13 of the heads or shaking of the heads.

14 A. Okay.

15 Q. So please answer audibly. What books are  
16 currently in the Crave books series?

17 A. Are you asking in reference to what is in the  
18 litigation or the total number of books in the Crave  
19 series?

20 Q. No. Right now the total number of published  
21 books in the Crave book series.

22 A. The total number of published books in the Crave  
23 series is five.

24 Q. And what are the names of those books?

25 A. Crave, Crush, Covet, Court, Charm.

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1 Q. Now, prior to being called Crush, was Crush  
2 called crown?

3 A. I believe it was.

4 Q. Do you know when the name was changed?

5 A. I don't recall an exact date, no.

6 Q. Do you know why it was changed?

7 A. I believe we wanted to go with each of the words  
8 in the Crave series of the titles means something having  
9 to do with love. Crush means having a crush on someone,  
10 crown does not mean that.

11 I believe that was part of the reason. I don't  
12 know everything else that went into it. Mrs. Pelletier  
13 is in charge of that kind of a thing.

14 Q. And who made the change? Do you know?

15 A. Mrs. Pelletier would've been the one to make the  
16 change.

17 Q. And I hesitate to ask this, but what does court  
18 have to do with love?

19 A. If you court somebody.

20 Q. Okay. I was looking at it the way that a lawyer  
21 would look at the word court. All right. Now, when  
22 were each of these five books that you mentioned  
23 published?

24 A. Crave was published April 2020. Crush was  
25 published September 2020. Covet was published in 2021.

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1 Court was published February of 2022. And Charm was  
2 published November, I believe.

3 MR. PASSIN: By the way, I want to ask the  
4 court reporter a question. Are there anyone -- who is  
5 attending by video? Do you know? Or the videographer,  
6 I should ask you.

7 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We have Tracy Wolff,  
8 obviously. Our plaintiff, Lynne Freeman, Lance Koonce  
9 and Zachary Press.

10 MR. PASSIN: Okay. I just thought that  
11 should be on the record. Thank you.

12 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Yes, sir.

13 MR. PASSIN: And obviously Tracy Wolff.  
14 Tracy Wolff is the witness.

15 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Right, which is attending  
16 on the Zoom as well.

17 MR. PASSIN: I don't understand.

18 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: That web cam sitting in  
19 front of the witness --

20 MR. PASSIN: Oh, I see.

21 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: -- brings Mrs. Wolff into  
22 the Zoom.

23 MR. PASSIN: Okay.

24 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Yes, sir, just for  
25 clarity.



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1 MR. BAER: For the record, should I state my  
2 name?

3 MR. PASSIN: I already said your name.

4 Q. (By Mr. Passin) And who is the publisher of each  
5 of the books in the Crave books series? And by the way  
6 I'll refer to those books as the Crave books series. Is  
7 that understood?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Okay. Who is the publisher of the books?

10 A. The publisher is Entangled.

11 Q. And who distributes the books?

12 A. Macmillan.

13 Q. Now, what did you do to prepare for your  
14 deposition today?

15 A. I read over some of the papers from the case that  
16 had been filed with the court and I met with my lawyers  
17 yesterday.

18 Q. When you said you read some of the papers from  
19 the case, did you pick those out yourself or did your  
20 lawyers send those to you?

21 MR. GOETZEL: Object to the form of the  
22 question. You're getting into a privileged area here.

23 MR. PASSIN: Right, it's just -- I'm trying  
24 to lay the foundation so that I won't. All I want to  
25 know is did she get them herself or did the lawyer pick

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1 one or two stop working?

2 A. Every time I got a new one.

3 Q. But did you recall approximately the year?

4 A. Probably 2019, maybe early 2020.

5 Q. But the two that -- the one or two that you no  
6 longer have, you did use to write and edit the Crave  
7 book series?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Did you use the computer at Austin Community  
10 College for some of your early writing in the book,  
11 Crave?

12 A. It wouldn't have been at Austin Community College  
13 because I was teaching early college start at local high  
14 schools. So it was a college class to high school  
15 students and I was in a local high school.

16 Q. And did that local high school provide you access  
17 to their computer?

18 A. They did.

19 Q. And did you use that computer to write any  
20 portions of the Crave book?

21 A. I don't remember, but it is not beyond the realm  
22 of possibility. I --

23 Q. And what was the name of the high school?

24 A. Lake Travis High School was one of them. Round  
25 Rock Early College Start.

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1 A. Some time in the last -- some time since COVID  
2 started.

3 Q. What e-mail programs do you have on each one of  
4 the computers, meaning Outlook or Gmail?

5 A. I don't use -- G mail.

6 Q. They're all Gmail?

7 A. Uh-huh.

8 MR. GOETZEL: Was that yes?

9 THE WITNESS: Yes.

10 Q. (By Mr. Passin) So is it fair to say that you use  
11 your Gmail address more than any of the other addresses?

12 A. Yes, that is true.

13 Q. And then the other addresses, where are those?  
14 On your phone?

15 A. No. They're not on my phone. Only my Gmail is  
16 on my phone.

17 Q. So then how do you access the other addresses?  
18 By the web?

19 A. Yes. I only access -- the only other one I  
20 access very occasionally is [REDACTED].

21 Q. And you access by going on the Internet and then  
22 on the web?

23 A. Yes. I go to Yahoo.com.

24 Q. What kind of software did you use to write and  
25 edit the books in the Crave book series?

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1 A. I used Microsoft Word; and occasionally, I used a  
2 Google Doc.

3 Q. Do you have an online subscription for any  
4 editing software?

5 A. I have an online subscription for Book Brush,  
6 which helps me make ads for Instagram. Not ads. Like,  
7 what goes on your Instagram.

8 Q. Do you have a subscription for Microsoft Word?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Do you have a subscription for Google Docs?

11 A. I pay \$1.99 a month for -- to keep my storage on  
12 Google Docs. I don't know if that counts as an online  
13 subscription.

14 Q. All right. And you still have that storage?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Okay. And when you produced documents in the  
17 case, did you provide access to that storage to the  
18 vendors who are gathering the documents?

19 A. I did, yes.

20 Q. As a professor at a community college, have you  
21 used turn it on -- excuse me -- Turnitin or any other  
22 plagiarism software to review student's papers?

23 A. Not at Austin Community College.

24 Q. Did you at some other teaching facility?

25 A. I did, yes.

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- 1 Q. And where was that?
- 2 A. Marian Catholic High School in San Diego.
- 3 Q. And during what years were you there?
- 4 A. I believe 2002 to 2005.
- 5 Q. And what type of software did you use?
- 6 A. Turnitin.com.
- 7 Q. Any other kind?
- 8 A. Microsoft Word to create my tests.
- 9 Q. Okay. And what kind of information did Turnitin
- 10 provide to you if you ran the student's papers through
- 11 it?
- 12 A. It would provide what percentage of the paper had
- 13 -- might've occurred somewhere else. I believe it's
- 14 been 17 years since I've used it.
- 15 Q. Okay. Now, going back to Google Docs, did Google
- 16 Docs send you an e-mail every time someone made an edit
- 17 to any of the Crave books?
- 18 A. The Crave books weren't on Google Docs.
- 19 Q. So you didn't use Google Docs to edit the Crave
- 20 books?
- 21 A. No, I did not.
- 22 Q. None of the Crave books?
- 23 A. The book?
- 24 Q. The --
- 25 A. No.

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1 Q. Any of the books in the Crave book series.

2 A. Not the book, no.

3 Q. Well, what did you use the Google Docs for?

4 A. I used them for chapter titles and a few random  
5 scenes in Court and I don't -- I don't believe -- I  
6 don't recall using them in Crave, Crush or Covet.

7 Q. All right. But you did use it in Court.

8 Correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. So you did use it for some of the books in the --

11 A. Not to edit the book, Court, no.

12 Q. What did you use it for?

13 A. To write a couple of random scenes and for  
14 chapter titles.

15 Q. Did you use Google Docs to write any of the other  
16 books in the Crave book series?

17 A. Can you clarify in terms of this? I'm in the  
18 understanding that in terms of this lawsuit we are  
19 referring to Crave, Crush, Covet and Court --

20 Q. Right.

21 A. -- as the Crave book series.

22 Q. Right now, I'm asking about all the books in  
23 Crave book series.

24 A. We used -- I used a couple for Cherish and I  
25 don't recall if I used them for Charm, any for Charm.

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1 A. I don't recall.

2 Q. Do you know which documents Stacy Abrams had  
3 access to?

4 A. I know she had access to the Crave chapter  
5 titles. I believe she has access to the Crave Bible  
6 because I believe she does. I'm not sure about other  
7 ones.

8 Q. Okay. And when the vendor in this case gathered  
9 documents, did you provide to him all the documents  
10 relating to the Crave chapter titles that was on Google  
11 books?

12 MR. GOETZEL: Objection. Google books?

13 MR. PASSIN: Excuse me, Google Docs, thank  
14 you.

15 A. I tried. I couldn't because they weren't started  
16 by me. I can't provide access if I don't start the doc.

17 Q. (By Mr. Passin) And did -- so of all the  
18 documents you had on Google Docs, did you provide any of  
19 those documents to the vendor?

20 A. If -- if -- he looked at all of the Google Docs.  
21 My recollection is that none of them were started by me,  
22 so he couldn't get them from me. But if there had been  
23 any that I had started, he would have gotten them.

24 Q. And who started them?

25 A. Emily Sylvan Kim and I don't know if Stacy Abrams

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1 started any. Liz Pelletier, I believe, started one or  
2 two.

3 Q. Are you aware, was there an access log to the  
4 Google Docs?

5 A. I don't know what an access log is.

6 Q. Well, access log would be a listing that shows  
7 who had accessed the Google Docs at any time. Did you  
8 ever see anything like that?

9 A. No.

10 Q. And maybe because you're not the owner?

11 A. Yeah, I -- I don't know.

12 Q. Did you use any text spinning software to write  
13 any of the books in the Crave book series?

14 A. I'm sorry. I don't understand the question.

15 Q. Are you familiar with text spinning software?

16 A. I have no idea what that is.

17 Q. Well, did you use any other kind of software --  
18 did you use any kind of software to write or edit the  
19 books in the Crave book series other than what we've  
20 already discussed?

21 A. I used Microsoft Word.

22 Q. Did you use any artificial intelligent bots that  
23 are able to reword sentences in writing any of the books  
24 in the Crave book series?

25 A. I did not.



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1 A. I taught writing and literature.

2 Q. And then when you moved to Austin, you said you  
3 took a year off and then you taught at Virginia College  
4 and you taught composition and literature?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And you told me what you taught at Austin  
7 Community College?

8 A. I also, in that time period, worked for a very  
9 brief time at a learning center tutoring.

10 Q. And you tutored English I assume?

11 A. English and math.

12 Q. That's a big switch. All right. Let's go on  
13 your second career path. You said in 2007 you wrote  
14 your first -- you had your first book published?

15 A. 2007 is when my first novel was published.  
16 Before that, I had a short story/novella published by  
17 Spice, which was an imprint of Harlequin. And I believe  
18 it came out February of 2007, but I am not positive.

19 Q. And what was that book called?

20 A. It was called No Apologies.

21 Q. Okay. You can continue.

22 A. 2007, I had my first book published by Harlequin.  
23 In the beginning of 2008, I had my first single title  
24 published by Penguin. The imprint was NAL and I believe  
25 that stands for New American Library. After that, I've

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1 had numerous books published with Walker, a division of  
2 Bloomsbury, with Harlequin Super Romance and Harlequin  
3 Desire, with New American Library, with Entangled and  
4 with Little, Brown, with ABDO Publishing and a short  
5 story and an anthology published by Harper.

6 Q. Approximately, how many books have you had  
7 published?

8 A. 69. I believe the one that I just wrote is 70.

9 Q. All right. We'll probably get more into the  
10 books a little later. Are you familiar with the  
11 manuscript that Lynne Freeman wrote that is the subject  
12 of this lawsuit?

13 A. I am familiar with it now.

14 Q. And how did you become familiar with it?

15 A. I was served papers.

16 Q. Referring -- well, you weren't served papers in  
17 this case?

18 A. Well --

19 Q. Well, technically referring to the complaint?

20 A. Yes, the complaint.

21 Q. Okay. Or are you referring to the demand letter  
22 that you got prior to the complaint?

23 A. Whatever came the second week in February,  
24 whatever that was is when I became aware of it.

25 Q. Okay. That was probably the demand letter.

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1 A. Okay.

2 Q. Okay. Have you ever heard the novel called Blue  
3 Moon Rising or Masked?

4 A. I first heard of them on whatever day it was in  
5 February when I was -- received the -- you call it a  
6 demand letter?

7 Q. Yeah, just we can refer to it as the February 7th  
8 letter.

9 A. February 7th letter.

10 Q. February 7th, 2020.

11 A. 2022.

12 MR. GOETZEL: 2020.

13 MR. PASSIN: 2020?

14 MR. GOETZEL: I believe --

15 MR. PASSIN: Yeah, 2020.

16 THE WITNESS: 2022.

17 MR. GOETZEL: You might want to check your  
18 dates.

19 MR. PASSIN: Oh, 2022. Yeah, you're right.  
20 2022. Okay. I apologize. COVID sort of -- yeah.

21 Q. (By Mr. Passin) Okay. So for the rest of the  
22 deposition, I'll refer to the manuscript either as Blue  
23 Moon Rising or Masked. Is that understood?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Okay. Did you ever read any part of Blue Moon

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1     **Rising or Masked?**

2         A.   No.

3         **Q.   Why did you choose Alaska as the setting for the**  
4     **Crave book series?**

5         A.   I think there were several reasons.

6         **Q.   And you were the one who chose Alaska?**

7         A.   I chose it, yes.

8         **Q.   And what were those several reasons?**

9         A.   The first reason was when I was writing a  
10    snowboarding book many years ago, I watched a  
11    documentary called The Art of Flight and there was a  
12    line in it where they were walking in Alaskan wilderness  
13    and they made the comment that they were walking where  
14    no human being had ever stepped before, and it seemed to  
15    me that that would be a good place to put paranormals.

16            The second reason is in the first ideas I gave  
17    Stacy Cantor Abrams regarding what would become the  
18    Crave series, one of the ideas was vampires set in  
19    Alaska. And I believe -- I don't know specifically what  
20    made me choose that except for The Art of Flight  
21    documentary and the fact that Alaska tends to be dreary  
22    and have civil twilight and be dark.

23            I do know that one of my favorite vampire novels  
24    ever was in Alaska. It's -- and I always thought that  
25    was a very cool setting for vampires.

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1 Q. And which novel was that?

2 A. Dancing in the dark by Sherrilyn Kenyon.

3 Q. Okay. I didn't mean to cut you off there. Are  
4 there other reasons?

5 A. Other reasons is when I was brainstorming, I  
6 really wanted a fish out of water story. It's one of --  
7 well, Liz really wanted a fish out of water story and I  
8 thought that was a really great idea. And being from  
9 San Diego, the thing -- like, I tried to imagine where  
10 in North America I would feel most uncomfortable. And  
11 Alaska came to mind.

12 When I was brainstorming, it was one of the  
13 places I had listed and then when I was brainstorming  
14 with Emily Sylvan Kim, we were talking over cold and  
15 dark places in North America and she reminded me -- I  
16 believe it was she reminded me of Alaska, that I had put  
17 it -- you know, that I had mentioned it. And I thought  
18 about it and decided that was a really great place.

19 And then when I went and talked to Liz about it,  
20 Liz had just come back on a cruise from Alaska and she  
21 was very excited about Alaska as well because she had  
22 just been on the cruise. And it just seemed like  
23 overall, all those things came together and seemed like  
24 a great place to set the book.

25 Q. All right. Well, you had mentioned that Alaska

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1     **getting your approval?**

2           A.   Liz Pelletier has made several changes to the  
3   books, not Crave.

4           **Q.   Which books did Liz Pelletier make changes to?**

5           A.   And she got my approval when she made them.  She  
6   made changes to Crush, to Covet and to Court, as any  
7   editor does.

8           **Q.   And she was a content editor.  Correct?**

9           A.   She was a content editor.

10          **Q.   And you said that on Crush, Covet and Court, she**  
11 **got permission to make all your -- her changes?  She got**  
12 **permission from you?**

13          A.   If she made a change that was any kind of  
14   substance, certainly she would call me and read it to  
15   me.

16          **Q.   How many substantive changes did she make to**  
17 **Crush?**

18          A.   I don't know off the top of my head.

19          **Q.   Can you give me an estimate?**

20          A.   I don't -- I don't want to do that.  I don't know  
21   off the top of my head.  It should be in the documents.

22          **Q.   In the documents?  Which documents are those?**

23          A.   Anything that was provided to you from, I  
24   would...

25          **Q.   Well, we don't have the Google documents.  Would**

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1 to?

2 A. I am not.

3 Q. Who is Emily Kim?

4 A. Emily Sylvan Kim is my agent.

5 Q. And when did you first meet Emily Kim?

6 A. I first met Emily Sylvan Kim at an RWA conference  
7 before she represented me. So prior to 2006, I believe.

8 Q. And what does RWA stand for?

9 A. It stands for Romance Writers of America.

10 Q. And where did that one take place?

11 A. I don't know.

12 Q. And how did you meet her at the conference?

13 A. She was on a panel. I went to her panel. After  
14 her panel, I walked up and I introduced myself to her  
15 and told her I had sent her some material to read and  
16 that I hoped to work with her one day or something of  
17 that gist. Those may not have been my exact words.

18 Q. And when did she become your literary agent?

19 A. I believe it was 2006.

20 Q. Did you have a different literary agent before  
21 Emily Sylvan Kim?

22 A. I did not.

23 Q. And why did you choose Emily Sylvan Kim?

24 A. There were various reasons.

25 Q. And what were those reasons?

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1       A. The first reason was she had interned or trained  
2       at Writers House, which was at the time the most  
3       prestigious or certainly one of the most prestigious  
4       literary agencies in America and I liked that she had  
5       had that training and those connections.

6       Two, I liked that she had started her own agency  
7       and that she was young and wanting to build her business  
8       the way that I wanted to build my career. And three, I  
9       remember really liking her website at the time. It had  
10      little poetry quotes on it and I liked it. I thought  
11      that was cool.

12      **Q. When you refer to starting her own business, that**  
13      **was Prospect Agency?**

14      A. I believe so, yes.

15      **Q. Were you friends with Mrs. Kim before you became**  
16      **-- before she became your agent?**

17      A. I was not.

18      **Q. Let me mark for identification as Exhibit 24 a**  
19      **document that is Bates-stamped Number Kim 00352674**  
20      **through Kim 00352676, and it's entitled Agreement for**  
21      **Authors.**

22                   (Exhibit Number 24 was marked.)

23      **Q. (By Mr. Passin) Can you please take a look at the**  
24      **exhibit?**

25      A. (Witness complies.)



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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 Q. Now, on --

2 MR. GOETZEL: Excuse me, Mark, I think you  
3 gave several different copies to her.

4 MR. PASSIN: Yeah, I knew I had extra  
5 copies.

6 Q. (By Mr. Passin) So is that your signature on Page  
7 3 --

8 A. It is, yes.

9 Q. -- on behalf of yourself?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And you entered into this agreement on or about  
12 November 25, 2007?

13 A. I suppose it was 2007 and not 2006.

14 Q. Do you know when this agreement became effective?

15 A. I would believe when she received it back from  
16 me.

17 Q. And can you describe for me briefly what this  
18 agreement is, your understanding of what the agreement  
19 is?

20 A. My understanding is that she agrees to be my  
21 literary agent and represent me, represent me in  
22 discussions with literary publishers.

23 Q. And what's your understanding of what Mrs. Kim  
24 was supposed to do as your literary agent?

25 A. Mrs. Kim was supposed to negotiate contracts for

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 me and submit my work to publishers and explain  
2 contracts to me.

3 Q. Does she sometimes edit manuscripts for you?

4 A. No, she does not edit manuscripts for me.

5 Q. Does she get involved in editing manuscripts?

6 A. Editing --

7 MR. GOETZEL: Object to the form. Are you  
8 talking about specifically with her or for anyone?

9 Q. (By Mr. Passin) For you.

10 A. Editing manuscripts?

11 Q. Yes.

12 A. Can you clarify?

13 Q. Well, isn't it true that Emily Kim made changes  
14 to various books in the Crave book series?

15 A. I don't believe that's true, no.

16 Q. It's true she wrote some chapter titles. Isn't  
17 it?

18 A. She did.

19 Q. Okay. What else did she do in connection with  
20 the Crave book series?

21 A. She always read the books, and I believe if she  
22 saw any proofreading errors or typos, she would let  
23 Stacy or Liz know about them.

24 Q. Did she make any story line suggestions?

25 A. Story line suggestions? Not to the best of my

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 recollection.

2 Q. Did she make any content edits?

3 A. Edits?

4 Q. Yes.

5 A. No, not that I'm aware of.

6 Q. Does she sometimes help you write any books?

7 A. She does not help me write books.

8 Q. Were there any amendments to the agreement which  
9 we've marked as Exhibit 24?

10 A. Not that I am aware of.

11 Q. And was this the first agency agreement you  
12 entered into with Mrs. Kim and Prospect?

13 A. It is, yes.

14 Q. And is it the only agency agreement you entered  
15 into with Mrs. Kim and Prospect?

16 A. It is, yes.

17 Q. Do you have any other agreements with either Mrs.  
18 Kim or Prospect relating to Crave or any of the books in  
19 the Crave book series?

20 A. I do not, no.

21 Q. Did you pay any money to Emily Kim or Prospect in  
22 connection with the books in the Crave book series or  
23 any other books other than what Prospect is paid  
24 pursuant to Exhibit 24?

25 MR. GOETZEL: Object to the form of the

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Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 remember all 69?

2 MR. GOETZEL: If you have a list of all the  
3 books that you've written and published, I don't have an  
4 objection to providing the list.

5 A. I can provide you with a list.

6 Q. (By Mr. Passin) Okay, thank you.

7 A. Where would I provide it?

8 Q. If they have dates --

9 THE WITNESS: I would give it to you.

10 MR. GOETZEL: Give it to me.

11 Q. (By Mr. Passin) If they have dates of publication  
12 on, that would be helpful and publisher, that's it.

13 A. Okay. I don't know. I can give you titles.

14 MR. GOETZEL: Generally speaking, we don't  
15 have to create something. If you have a list.

16 MRS. WOLFF: Yeah, just take it under  
17 advisement. Yeah.

18 THE WITNESS: Okay. Okay.

19 Q. (By Mr. Passin) Were any -- so is it correct to  
20 say that what? There are about 68 or 69 books? How  
21 many books when you take out the first book that she  
22 wasn't involved with?

23 A. I feel like that is about right, yes.

24 Q. Okay. Were any of those books, other than the  
25 books in the Crave book series, on the New York Times

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Freeman vs.  
Deeks

Tracy Wolff

1     **best seller list?**

2         A.   Yes.

3         **Q.   How many of them?**

4         A.   Two were on the New York Times best seller list.

5         **Q.   And what books were those?**

6         A.   Ethan Frost, Ruined and Addicted.

7         **Q.   Ethan Frost?**

8         A.   It wasn't actually named Ethan Frost. That was  
9         the name of the series, the Ethan Frost series. Book  
10        one was Ruined. Book two was Addicted.

11        **Q.   And they were both part of the Ethan Frost**  
12        **series?**

13        A.   Yes.

14        **Q.   And when were those published?**

15        A.   2014 or 2015.

16        **Q.   Of those 68 or 69 books, would you characterize**  
17        **any of them as financially successful?**

18        A.   I actually need to change something based on this  
19        date, November 2007. I was off by a year then. My  
20        first book came out the end of 2008 and my next one came  
21        out the beginning of 2009.

22        **Q.   So in other words --**

23        A.   I was off by a year all the way across.

24        **Q.   So in other words, all the books were covered by**  
25        **Exhibit 24?**

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 A. No, no, because I sold the first book on my own.

2 Q. Okay. So what are you correcting on this?

3 A. I'm correcting -- I told you earlier on the  
4 record that my first book came out in the end of 2007  
5 and my second book came out at the beginning of 2008.  
6 That -- I must -- I am off a year.

7 My first book came out at the end of 2008 and my  
8 first book -- and my second book came out the beginning  
9 of 2009. The first book that came out in 2008, I sold  
10 to Harlequin by myself.

11 Q. So did you specifically exclude it from this  
12 agreement because the agreement's dated in 2007?

13 A. It was not -- it would have already been excluded  
14 because I had already signed the contract. The contract  
15 was signed many months, maybe a year before this.

16 Q. Okay. So going back to where we left off, we  
17 were discussing the 68 or 69 books. Would you  
18 characterize any of them as financially successful?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. How many of them?

21 A. Several.

22 Q. And which books were those?

23 A. Can you define financially successful to me?

24 Q. Well, made a substantial amount of money.

25 A. What is a substantial amount of money?

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 answered.

2 MR. GOETZEL: Same objection.

3 A. I was worried she was very sad after the death of  
4 her father.

5 MR. PASSIN: Can you mark that question,  
6 please, and answer? Thank you.

7 Q. (By Mr. Passin) Is it fair to say that Mrs. Emily  
8 Kim was involved in editing the books in the Crave book  
9 series?

10 A. No, it is not fair to say she was involved in  
11 editing the books.

12 Q. Well, didn't Emily Kim also make contributions to  
13 the story line in the Crave book series?

14 A. She did not make contributions to the story line  
15 in the Crave book series.

16 Q. Isn't it accurate to say that Emily Kim  
17 contributed to the writing of the Crave book series?

18 A. She did not contribute to the writing of the  
19 Crave book series. She did not write.

20 Q. Well, how would you describe Emily Kim's  
21 contributions to the Crave book series?

22 A. Emily is an amazing cheerleader.

23 Q. Meaning that all she did is acted as a  
24 cheerleader in connection with the Crave book series?

25 A. She kept a document and made suggestions for

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 chapter titles, some of which I took, most of which I  
2 did not. But she kept, like, the summary of what  
3 happened in that chapter so that when I went to do the  
4 chapter titles...

5 **Q. Did she write the series Bible?**

6 A. I believe she contributed to the -- yeah. I  
7 believe she started and did some of the series Bible,  
8 yes. I don't believe she did all of it, but the series  
9 Bible is not story lines. The series Bible is what is  
10 already written.

11 **Q. But isn't it fair to say that she was more**  
12 **involved in the creation of the Crave book series than**  
13 **acting as a cheerleader?**

14 A. No. I don't think that's fair to say.

15 **Q. You just said she wrote some of the chapter**  
16 **titles, you just said she wrote the series Bible. Is**  
17 **that acting as a cheerleader or is that more involved?**

18 A. The series Bible is not about the creation of the  
19 series. The series Bible took place after the book was  
20 written --

21 **Q. What about the chapter --**

22 A. -- so that is not about the creation.

23 **Q. What about the chapter titles?**

24 A. The chapter titles are titles of chapters, but  
25 the chapters were not written by Emily Sylvan Kim.



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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1           **Q. But the chapter titles were?**

2                   MR. GOETZEL: Object to the form of the  
3 question. You're mischaracterizing her testimony.

4           A. I said that she made suggestions on chapter  
5 titles, some of which I took, most of which I did not.  
6 And that did not happen even until Covet.

7           **Q. (By Mr. Passin) Which chapter titles in the Crave**  
8 **book series did you write?**

9           A. All of -- all of the ones in Crave. My son  
10 suggested a few with me. We would talk about it at  
11 dinner. Crush, I believe Elizabeth Pelletier made  
12 several suggestions in Crush. I also do not think I  
13 took them. Emily Sylvan Kim started, I believe, making  
14 suggestions in Covet, not for all of them, not even for  
15 close to all of them in Covet.

16                   And she began keeping a document in Court where  
17 she would list the summary of what was going on in each  
18 chapter. And sometimes, I do not know if it was in all  
19 of them she made suggestions. I think sometimes she  
20 would be, like, you know, some phrase or something.  
21 Again, most of them would be to jog me and make me think  
22 of something else that I thought was funny.

23                   I'm actually very possessive of the chapter  
24 titles and I want them to be as perfect as I can make  
25 them. So like I said, my children have made

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 suggestions, my partner has made suggestions, Liz has  
2 made suggestions, Emily has made suggestions. Some of  
3 my friends have made suggestions, but I choose them in  
4 the end.

5 Q. All right. Now, you mentioned a couple of  
6 minutes ago a document that Emily Sylvan Kim wrote. Is  
7 that the Bible or is that another document?

8 A. Can you clarify? I don't know what document  
9 you're referring to.

10 Q. Well, a couple of minutes ago you said that Mrs.  
11 Kim wrote some document that, let's see, what was going  
12 on in each of the chapters?

13 A. That is the chapter title document.

14 Q. Okay. So she wrote the chapter title document  
15 and she also wrote a Bible?

16 A. She wrote a summary, a one to -- one-line summary  
17 of what happened in the chapters that I wrote because  
18 sometimes in editing, Liz would break the chapters  
19 differently. So if I had a chapter that was too long,  
20 maybe Liz would break that up.

21 Q. Okay. Then you mentioned something about Emily  
22 Kim would remind you about something that was funny for  
23 chapter titles. Did you try and make your chapter  
24 titles funny?

25 A. Yes, I did try to make my chapter titles funny.

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Freeman vs.  
Deeks

Tracy Wolff

1 Q. Did -- were your chapter titles structured sort  
2 of as innuendos or comments about certain things?

3 A. I wouldn't call them innuendos.

4 Q. What was the purpose -- what did you try in  
5 achieve in a chapter title?

6 A. To get a laugh and set the tone of what the  
7 chapter was. So if a chapter was very somber, it would  
8 not have a funny title.

9 Q. Did you write a synopsis for each book in the  
10 Crave book series?

11 A. I did not.

12 Q. Did someone else?

13 A. For each book? No.

14 Q. For some of the books?

15 A. Some of the books, there are synopses for.

16 Q. Which books?

17 A. I believe I wrote something for Crave. Crush, I  
18 wrote the first half of the synopsis. I believe Liz  
19 Pelletier wrote the second half. Covet, Liz Pelletier  
20 wrote the synopsis. Court, the synopsis was more  
21 nebulous in Court.

22 Q. First of all, describe for me what a synopsis is.

23 A. A synopsis is the basic plot plan for the book.

24 Q. And when you say that Liz Pelletier wrote the  
25 second half of the synopsis for Crush, was it based on

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 your plot plan for the book or hers?

2 A. Brainstorming and also a dream she had.

3 Q. What was the dream she had?

4 A. She dreamt about one of the heroes walking over a  
5 cliff and trees exploding around him.

6 Q. And when did she tell you about that dream?

7 A. On a phone call, an early morning phone call.

8 Q. Excuse me?

9 A. An early morning phone call. I don't know what  
10 day. I couldn't tell you.

11 Q. Well, how far along in the process of writing the  
12 Crave book series?

13 A. It was while we were writing Crush.

14 Q. And then on Court, you said Liz Pelletier wrote  
15 the synopsis?

16 A. I said the synopsis was nebulous on Court.

17 Q. I'm sorry, Covet. I meant Covet. I'm sorry.

18 A. Yes, Liz Pelletier wrote the synopsis on Covet.

19 Q. And was that based on her idea for the story line  
20 or a combination or brainstorming or what?

21 A. I believe it was based on brainstorming.

22 Q. Okay. When you say brainstorming on both Crush  
23 and Covet, but I take it it was all based on a  
24 continuation of Crave, the book Crave?

25 A. It's a series, so it progresses from Crave.

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 Q. So it has its limit -- it was limited by Crave?

2 MR. GOETZEL: Object to the --

3 A. Can you define limited?

4 Q. (By Mr. Passin) Well, it had to follow in the  
5 sequence of Crave, it had to be a follow up to Crave?  
6 In other words, it would involve the same characters, et  
7 cetera?

8 A. Yes, it does involve the same characters with  
9 some new additional characters.

10 Q. And when you say the synopsis for Court was  
11 nebulous, was there any synopsis at all?

12 A. I believe there was some, yes. I do not believe  
13 it was a cohesive document the same way.

14 Q. And who wrote it?

15 A. Liz, I believe.

16 Q. And was that based on brainstorming?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Is that common for --

19 A. And --

20 Q. Go ahead.

21 A. And some of her ideas that she had had in maybe a  
22 dream, yeah.

23 Q. The same dream we talked about before?

24 A. I don't believe so, no.

25 Q. What other dreams?

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Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1       A. I -- Liz -- I tend -- I can't say everything  
2 about Liz's dreams. I don't know. I know that she's  
3 had a couple.

4       **Q. Well, did she communicate them to you?**

5       A. I'm not sure. I know Covet. I remember the  
6 dream from Covet very clearly. Court, I'm not sure.

7       **Q. Now, is it usual for a content editor to write a**  
8 **synopsis?**

9       A. That would depend on the project.

10      **Q. Explain that to me.**

11      A. Some projects -- if a project is conceived of by  
12 an editor or a publisher, they tend to have much more  
13 say in, like, the synopsis than if a project is  
14 conceived of solely by a writer.

15      **Q. Well, who conceived of Crave?**

16      A. Liz -- Stacy Cantor Abrams and I spoke because  
17 they had a book fall through. And by fall through, I  
18 mean a writer would not be able to write the book that  
19 they were contracted to write.

20               When that happens for a publisher, it creates an  
21 opening in the line that needs to be filled. It is my  
22 understanding that that happened with Entangled and  
23 Stacy told me -- asked me if I would be interested in  
24 writing a book quickly for the Entangled team line.

25      **Q. And did she tell you what that book was about?**

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Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1       A. She told me something -- I don't remember the  
2       exact words, something paranormal. And I wrote up five  
3       ideas in response to that and sent them to Stacy.

4       **Q. So is that all she told you? Something**  
5       **paranormal?**

6       A. I don't remember exactly.

7       **Q. Didn't she tell you exactly, it was an ordinary**  
8       **girl in a super rarified world?**

9       A. I don't think she told me that before. I believe  
10      the first time we spoke was on the phone.

11      **Q. And what'd she tell you on that phone**  
12      **conversation?**

13      A. She told me that they had had a book fall through  
14      in the line and that she was wondering if I would be  
15      interested and if I had room in my writing schedule to  
16      write a book quickly for Entangled team, that it needed  
17      -- that it should be paranormal.

18               I do not remember if she mentioned vampires  
19      specifically on that phone call or not.

20      **Q. Do you remember anything else about that phone**  
21      **call?**

22      A. We spoke several times and it was several years  
23      ago, so I do remember a couple of other things, but I am  
24      not sure it was from that phone call or a subsequent  
25      phone call.

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1       Q. Was the subsequent phone call before you sent  
2       them the five ideas?

3       A. I don't recall if it was before or directly  
4       after. I don't recall. I'm sorry. I don't.

5       Q. What do you specifically remember from that phone  
6       call?

7       A. I remember her saying that Liz had read some  
8       articles and that she was excited about bringing  
9       vampires back.

10      Q. Anything else?

11      A. I remember her saying that when they were talking  
12      about someone that they knew who could write quickly, I  
13      came to mind because I had just signed another contract  
14      with Entangled for the first time in several years. I  
15      signed a contract with them, to be clear, before the  
16      Crave series contract.

17      Q. And what book was that?

18      A. That was a book that never came out. I do not  
19      remember the exact title of it. It was an adult  
20      rom-com. Rom-com, meaning romantic comedy.

21      Q. How long did it take you to write each book in  
22      the Crave book series?

23      A. I feel like that differs. Crave, I believe took  
24      a couple of months. And then more writing during the  
25      editing process. Crush took, I believe, a couple of



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Freeman vs.  
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Tracy Wolff

1 months as well. Maybe three, I don't know. Somewhere  
2 between two and three. I feel like most of them did.  
3 Court took longer, but it was the longest book.

4 Q. And what about Covet? I think we skipped Covet  
5 unless I missed it.

6 A. Yeah, I think approximately the same amount of  
7 time. That seems about right.

8 Q. And is it fair to say --

9 A. Two to three months.

10 Q. -- that you write -- you can write a book faster  
11 than most authors write?

12 A. I don't think -- I don't know how fast other  
13 authors can write a book. So I don't think that is a  
14 question I can answer.

15 Q. But you seem to have a reputation for being able  
16 to write books quickly. Is that correct?

17 A. I do believe that I can -- I can write books  
18 quickly, yes.

19 Q. When did you start and when did you finish  
20 writing each one of the books in the Crave book series?  
21 And then you can limit it to the four that are the  
22 subject of this litigation.

23 A. I honestly cannot give you exact dates. I  
24 believe with Crave, they contacted me in late April, so  
25 I believe I probably started writing in May. I believe

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 it took a couple of months. I know that it didn't get  
2 edited until December, I believe. I think it was -- it  
3 was November or December. It was -- it was in the  
4 wintertime and that required more writing as well.

5 Crush, I believe was a couple of months. I  
6 believe I was -- I don't know when exactly. I do  
7 believe I was writing it in June, and I only remember  
8 that because my dog died. Covet was over Thanksgiving,  
9 so some time in the Fall. Court, Court was Summer, and  
10 I remember that because my partner got COVID in August  
11 when I was writing Court. And those are the four books.

12 Q. Is it fair to say that Crave is the most  
13 commercially successful book you've ever written?

14 A. I believe that's fair to say, yes.

15 Q. How many copies of Crave in all formats have you  
16 sold?

17 A. I have no idea.

18 Q. Is it fair to say that you sold more copies of  
19 Crave in all formats than you've ever sold of any other  
20 book?

21 A. I believe that's fair.

22 Q. Okay. Other than any of the books in the Crave  
23 book series, what was the greatest number of copies in  
24 all the formats of any other book that you sold?

25 A. I have no idea.

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Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 Q. Do you know what the name of the book would be  
2 that was your second most --

3 A. I would assume it was probably the Ethan Frost  
4 series and the Shaken Dirty series. The Ethan Frost hit  
5 New York Times and Shaken Dirty hit USA Today.

6 Q. How did you come up with the names Grace and  
7 Jaxon for the Crave book series?

8 A. Grace came to me. Sometimes characters do that,  
9 they come into my head, talking to me fully formed and  
10 she did. I was laying in bed and I was trying to sleep  
11 and she just started talking in my head and right away,  
12 I knew her name was Grace.

13 Q. And when that happens, do you jump out of bed and  
14 take notes?

15 A. No. I should, but I don't.

16 Q. You're lucky.

17 A. I remind myself. I go over and over it in my  
18 head and tell myself to remember in the morning.  
19 Sometimes I do, sometimes I don't.

20 Q. And was she pretty much fully formed in those  
21 thoughts?

22 A. She had her voice where she was, you know, a  
23 little funny. I had a picture of what she looked like.  
24 Like I said, I knew her name was Grace. I did not know  
25 she was a gargoyle at that point. Jaxon, I got his name

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Tracy Wolff

1 the way I get -- I believe what I did for Jaxon was I  
2 Googled whatever year he would've been born, if he was  
3 17 and not 100, and Googled the most popular names. You  
4 can do that, like, U.S. Census or Social Security has a  
5 list that comes up very often, and you can just go  
6 through.

7 And I tend to go through and pick names that I  
8 like that were popular in the years that my characters  
9 were born.

10 **Q. And how did you create his character traits?**

11 A. Well, he was a vampire, so I assumed he would be  
12 dark and broody. Liz Pelletier suggested the scar on  
13 his face and the rest, I mean, I just kind of figured  
14 out around him. Like, why she had -- I believe it was  
15 Liz who made a comment, it might've been Stacy, I don't  
16 remember, it might've been -- about how he needed to be  
17 -- like, there needed -- or maybe I made the comment.

18 I don't -- the problem with writing a  
19 contemporary story is if two people want to be together,  
20 they are together. So you have to come up with reasons  
21 for them to be apart besides -- and I didn't want it to  
22 just be -- and I don't think Liz wanted it to just be,  
23 oh, he might kill her. Like, that's not a good enough  
24 conflict.

25 And so then I started thinking about what

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Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 conflict, internal conflict, and external conflict, I  
2 could put between these two characters that would keep  
3 them apart.

4 Q. And who are the other main characters in Crave?

5 A. I believe Grace, Jaxon and Hudson are the three  
6 main characters.

7 Q. All right. And how did you conceive of Hudson?

8 A. When I write characters, they usually come to --  
9 besides like when I'm first starting, when I'm really  
10 thinking, okay, I need to lay out a romantic conflict, I  
11 need to lay out a setting, I need to lay out some kind  
12 of plot.

13 As I move along in a book or in a series, the  
14 characters tend to come to me when I need them. So  
15 Hudson, when I got to the ice cave, and I was writing  
16 the ice cave with the Bloodletter and Grace and Jaxon,  
17 Hudson needed to show up. And all of a sudden, he  
18 showed up leaning an elbow, like super sarcastic. And I  
19 was, like, There you are. Okay. Because I found that  
20 for me if I spend too much time, like, trying to put  
21 them on paper, like, how they're -- like I said, Grace  
22 came to me just talking in my head.

23 But if I spend too much time trying to really lay  
24 it out, like oh, this person's going to be snarky and  
25 this person's going to be angry or whatever, it tends to

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 not feel natural in dialogue. So I've learned to just  
2 trust my process and that the character will show up  
3 when I need them and Hudson did.

4 Q. And then how did you decide that Grace should  
5 become a gargoye?

6 A. I think my subconscious always knew because I  
7 wrote in to Crave that her stomach sank like a stone or  
8 that she went as still as a statue or that she froze.  
9 And that was in several places because I wasn't sure  
10 which she was. Like, witch seemed too easy. I didn't  
11 want her to be a witch, I didn't want her to be a  
12 dragon, I didn't want her to be a vampire and I didn't  
13 want her to be a werewolf, so they couldn't be any of  
14 those four things.

15 So I knew she needed to be something different  
16 and I didn't really know what it was until -- I think I  
17 brainstormed with my kids several times. My youngest  
18 son was pulling for Windigo because he loves them and I  
19 did not want her to be a flesh-eating monster. So I  
20 brainstormed with my youngest, my kids who are big into  
21 fantasy and lore all of that, Dungeons & Dragons.

22 I brainstormed with myself, I brainstormed with  
23 Liz, and I think it was in a brainstorming with Liz that  
24 gargoye first came up.

25 Q. And then how did you come up with the Bloodletter

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Tracy Wolff

1     **character?**

2           A. That was in the editing process of Crave. Liz  
3     told me she wanted a character that sounded really scary  
4     but was very sweet. No, that sounded scary but when you  
5     looked at her, she looked sweet. Like, she thought, I  
6     just want her to be a dichotomy, right? Like, you don't  
7     expect it, but also that she really is scary. And I  
8     believe in that, she said she needs to have a scary name  
9     like Bloodletter or something.

10           And I thought that was a really cool name. So I  
11     wrote the scene, it was an epilogue or it was a bonus  
12     scene, epilogue or bonus scene to Crave and I kept the  
13     name Bloodletter because I thought it sounded like a  
14     cool name. And I figured she would tell me if she  
15     wanted me to change it. Do you mind if we take a break?  
16     I need to use the restroom.

17           **Q. That's fine.**

18           THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're off the record at  
19     10:53 a.m.

20                           (Brief recess.)

21           THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This is Media 3. We're  
22     on the record at 11:05 a.m.

23                           DIRECT EXAMINATION (cont'd.)

24     BY MR. PASSIN:

25           **Q. Have you ever referred to a Windigo in any book**

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Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 the Tempest series, you would not have gotten the Crave  
2 series?

3 A. I don't know if that is true or not because I've  
4 done several other books with her.

5 Q. Fair enough. Is it fair to say that Stacy Abrams  
6 did make some contributions to the story line of the  
7 Crave book series?

8 A. I don't -- I don't believe she did.

9 Q. Have you ever met Lynne Freeman?

10 A. I have no recollection of meeting Lynne Freeman.

11 Q. When did you first hear or see her name?

12 A. On the document you told me to refer to as the  
13 February 2022 document.

14 Q. Okay. Did you attend the Romance Writers of  
15 America conference in Anaheim, California in July of  
16 2012?

17 A. I believe I did.

18 Q. Do you remember meeting Lynne Freeman while in  
19 Anaheim for the conference?

20 A. I do not remember -- recollect meeting Lynne  
21 Freeman.

22 Q. Do you remember Emily Kim introducing you to  
23 Lynne Freeman outside the hotel you were staying while  
24 attending the conference?

25 A. I don't remember that, no.



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Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 Q. When you say you don't remember, is it possible  
2 that you met her, you just don't remember?

3 A. I don't know if it's possible or not. I don't  
4 remember meeting her.

5 Q. Okay. Did you give a lecture at the conference  
6 in 2012 on erotic language in books?

7 A. I did not.

8 Q. Did you give a conference at that -- did you give  
9 a lecture at that conference?

10 A. I did give a lecture at that conference.

11 Q. And what was the subject?

12 A. It was on sexual -- seven steps to sizzling  
13 sexual tension and how to use that in everything from YA  
14 through erotica.

15 Q. Do you remember on the morning that you gave the  
16 lecture riding from your hotel to the conference in  
17 Emily Kim's rental vehicle?

18 A. I stayed at the conference hotel. I always stay  
19 at the conference hotel.

20 MR. PASSIN: Can you read the question back,  
21 please?

22 (Previous question read back.)

23 A. I would not have been riding in any car because I  
24 would've been at the hotel already because I would've  
25 stayed there.

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 Q. (By Mr. Passin) Yeha, but do you remember the  
2 morning you gave the lecture riding from your hotel to  
3 the conference -- oh, I see you're saying the conference  
4 is at the hotel?

5 A. Is at the hotel.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. And I would not be in any vehicle.

8 Q. Okay, all right. Do you remember that during the  
9 ride Lynne Freeman -- okay. Strike that.

10 Do you remember riding in Emily Kim's rental  
11 vehicle with other clients of Mrs. Kim, including Lynne  
12 Freeman?

13 A. Emily Sylvan Kim has never rented a vehicle that  
14 I've ridden in.

15 Q. Who is the owner of Entangled?

16 A. Liz Pelletier owns the majority. I do not know  
17 all of the other owners.

18 Q. When did you meet Liz Pelletier?

19 A. I met Liz Pelletier at an RWA conference. I do  
20 not remember which one.

21 Q. Under -- well, what were the circumstances that  
22 you met her at the conference?

23 A. I was walking through the bar and a number of  
24 Entangled authors and Entangled employees were sitting  
25 there. I saw Stacy Abrams, I said hello. She

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 Q. And then please look at the last two pages of  
2 this document. Is that a certification that certifies  
3 that the electronic signature we just looked at is your  
4 electronic signature?

5 A. Yes. It says, Signature Certificate.

6 Q. You can put that document down. Do you plan for  
7 there to be any more books in the Crave series other  
8 than Crave, Crush, Covet, Court, Charm and Cherish?

9 A. I do not.

10 Q. Now, the agreements in the addendum, addenda,  
11 that we just went over, did you use a lawyer to  
12 negotiate them or does your -- or did your agent  
13 negotiate them?

14 A. My agent negotiated them. I do not know if she  
15 used an attorney as well.

16 Q. Well, let me ask you this. On your answers to  
17 interrogatories where you listed expenses, you had some  
18 legal fees charged. Do you know what lawyer that was  
19 to?

20 A. It was to LegalZoom.

21 Q. And what do you use, in general, I don't want to  
22 get into any details, but what do you use LegalZoom for?

23 A. My partner helped me set up an LLC through  
24 LegalZoom.

25 Q. Okay. And other than that, do you use a lawyer

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Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 even if it's something you might be interested in. But  
2 the dynamic is exactly what Liz is looking for; ordinary  
3 girl in a super rarified world, hence the huge worldwide  
4 response to it. I can't wait to hear what you think.

5 So my questions are, do you notice it says in the  
6 first paragraph that, I'm so excited that you thought of  
7 me for this and in the penultimate paragraph that the  
8 dynamic is exactly what Liz is looking for, ordinary  
9 girl in super rarified world.

10 Based on the foregoing, is it accurate to say  
11 that prior to April 26th, 2019, Stacy Abrams  
12 communicated to you that Entangled wanted to hire you to  
13 write a book about an ordinary girl in a super rarified  
14 world?

15 A. It is accurate to say that Stacy Abrams and I  
16 spoke on the phone about the project that would become  
17 the Crave series. I do not know if she used those words  
18 or if I took something that she said and put them into  
19 those words. That, I do not know.

20 Q. Well, tell me specifically what you recall was  
21 said in that conversation.

22 A. I mentioned earlier this very same conversation.  
23 And Stacy and I spoke by phone. She explained to me  
24 that a book that they had planned had fallen through,  
25 and by fallen through it meant that for some reason the

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 author was unable to write the book. This left a hole  
2 in Entangled's schedule and she and Liz were speaking  
3 about what they could fill the hole with. And at some  
4 point, they decided they wanted a paranormal romance.

5 Q. All right. Now, didn't -- she must have said  
6 something similar to, ordinary girl in a super rarified  
7 world, don't you agree, or you wouldn't have written it  
8 in this e-mail?

9 A. I think that all paranormal romances are either a  
10 girl or a boy who is ordinary and who has fallen into a  
11 super rarified world. If not all, then a large  
12 majority. I cannot speak for all because I have not  
13 read all.

14 Q. So you think that the phrase "ordinary girl in a  
15 super rarified world" is basically the same thing as  
16 saying a young adult paranormal novel?

17 A. I think that it is saying that a large percentage  
18 of young adult paranormal novels, and to a certain  
19 extent adult paranormal novels, involve a super rarified  
20 world, a world that not many people know about. And  
21 it's usually the thing that shakes up, the inciting  
22 incident as we refer to in writing, is that somebody or  
23 something comes in to this world and changes it.

24 And that, in some way or another, encompasses --  
25 again, I cannot speak to all because I have not read

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 the form. You mischaracterized or misstated what's  
2 written here.

3 Q. (By Mr. Passin) That was in two weeks?

4 MR. GOETZEL: Getting the first three  
5 chapters is always my hardest hurdle and I spent a week  
6 on that?

7 MR. PASSIN: A week, I'm sorry.

8 Q. (By Mr. Passin) Is one week a long or short time  
9 to do the first three chapters?

10 A. For me, usually a short time, the first, I don't  
11 know, about the first ten chapters are always my  
12 hardest.

13 Q. Did you meet the deadline for the book?

14 A. I don't remember.

15 Q. How long does it typically take for you to write  
16 a book? I realize it depends on the length of the book.

17 A. It depends on the length of the book and what it  
18 is.

19 Q. But what about a book like the Crave book series  
20 that's 500-600 pages?

21 A. I would say two to three months.

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. If it goes well.

24 Q. Next I'm going to mark as Exhibit 45 a 78-page  
25 draft of Crave, which is Bates-stamped Number 0038155

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Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1     how many pages it is, so I can't tell you if it is half  
2     of the book.

3           Q.   Okay.  Do you have any idea when this was  
4     completed, this draft?

5           A.   (Witness shakes head.)

6           Q.   Well, if it was attached to the exhibit --

7           A.   Some time in the summer.

8           Q.   Yeah, if it was attached to the exhibit, it  
9     would've been --

10           THE VIDEOGRAPHER:  Counselor, you need to  
11     raise your microphone up a little bit more.

12           Q.   (By Mr. Passin) If it was attached to the  
13     exhibit, it would've been July 2, 2019.  Does that make  
14     sense to you?

15           A.   If it was attached to the exhibit, then yes.

16           Q.   All right.  Did Stacy ever get back to you on  
17     what she thought about Jaxon or Grace?

18           A.   I don't recall her getting back to me or what she  
19     said, but if the book continued to move forward, I'm  
20     sure I spoke with her or I don't remember if I was  
21     speaking with Liz at this point.

22           Q.   Did Stacy ever give you any suggestions on how to  
23     make it better, the book better?

24           A.   I remember Stacy giving me suggestions from Liz.  
25     Liz thinks you should do this, Liz thinks you should do

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Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 that.

2 Q. Do you recall any other specific suggestions?

3 A. At this juncture?

4 Q. Yes.

5 A. No.

6 Q. Do you recall how many suggestions she made?

7 MR. GOETZEL: I'm sorry. She being Stacy or  
8 Liz?

9 Q. (By Mr. Passin) Stacy making suggestions that Liz  
10 supposedly said.

11 A. Stacy making suggestions from Liz?

12 Q. Yes.

13 A. I don't know how many suggestions.

14 Q. A lot or a little?

15 A. The one that -- I don't know. I don't know.

16 Q. And did you ever talk directly to Liz about  
17 suggestions or was it always through Stacy?

18 A. No, I did speak with Liz for -- at one point, we  
19 spoke for many hours.

20 Q. And when did that take place?

21 A. I don't remember. She was in an airport and we  
22 spoke about her ideas for the book and my ideas for the  
23 book and we went back and forth. Stacy was on the phone  
24 call, but she -- I believe she hung up because Liz and I  
25 were going back and forth. And I know that when I got



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Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 it was -- the flight pattern was from San Diego to  
2 Seattle to either Fairbanks or Anchorage. And I must  
3 have, at one point, picked Anchorage.

4 And then -- whether I changed it to Fairbanks  
5 because I forgot that I had chosen Anchorage and started  
6 writing Fairbanks instead or if somebody realized that I  
7 had Fairbanks and Anchorage in there and might've told  
8 me to pick one and I -- when towards the end of the book  
9 realized that Fairbanks is closer to Healy, I believe, I  
10 might've chosen Fairbanks at that point.

11 Q. Didn't you take it out because Lynne Freeman uses  
12 Anchorage in her book?

13 A. I had never heard of Lynne Freeman or her book at  
14 the time Crave was published.

15 Q. Anchorage was mentioned five times in the first  
16 147 pages of Exhibit 21. Are you aware that Masked  
17 mentions Anchorage five times in the first 150 pages?

18 A. I have absolutely no idea what Masked mentions.

19 Q. In various drafts of your manuscript for Crave,  
20 you used the phrase frozen wasteland, and then in the  
21 final version change it to hell has actually frozen  
22 over. Are you aware that Masked uses the term frozen  
23 wasteland?

24 A. I am not aware.

25 Q. In the drafts of Crave, you spell rakes

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 question. Go ahead.

2 A. Stacy Abrams did not content edit Crave.

3 Q. (By Mr. Passin) I didn't say that. She was a  
4 copy editor, so she made edits. Didn't she?

5 A. That is between Liz and Stacy how she would make  
6 those edits.

7 Q. Please describe to me the contributions you made  
8 to each of the books, Crave, Crush, Covet and Court?

9 A. I wrote them.

10 Q. Please describe to me the contributions that Liz  
11 Pelletier made to each of the books, Crave, Crush, Covet  
12 and Court?

13 A. Liz helped me plot them and she edited them.

14 Q. I'm sorry. You said she helped you plot them?

15 A. She helped me plot them. We brainstormed and  
16 plotted together, yes.

17 Q. Okay. And what does that mean exactly?

18 A. It means that we would talk about the books, we  
19 would throw out ideas about the books, we would decide  
20 on ideas about the books.

21 Q. But then ultimately you are the one that would  
22 make the changes. Correct?

23 A. I am the one that wrote the books and turned them  
24 over to her after they had been fully plotted and  
25 written.

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Freeman vs.  
Deeks

Tracy Wolff

1 Q. And describe to me the contributions that Stacy  
2 Abrams made to each of the books, Crave, Crush, Covet  
3 and Court.

4 A. Stacy Abrams was the copy editor.

5 Q. And who else was involved in editing any of the  
6 books in the Crave book series?

7 A. I believe there were proofreaders involved. I  
8 don't know who the proofreaders are.

9 Q. Okay. I'd like to --

10 A. And I believe Emily Sylvan Kim read each book  
11 because she reads all of my books.

12 Q. I would like to mark as Exhibit 47 a letter dated  
13 May 9th, 2022 from Nancy Wolff to me.

14 (Exhibit Number 47 was marked.)

15 Q. (By Mr. Passin) You see on the last page -- did  
16 you receive a carbon copy of this letter on or about  
17 February 9 of 2022?

18 A. I believe I received it after it was sent, yes.

19 Q. Look at the third paragraph. The first line  
20 says, In this instance, Pelletier created the basic  
21 story line for the Crave book series. Is that a true  
22 statement?

23 A. She created the -- for Crave?

24 Q. Yes.

25 A. The one -- the first book --

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Tracy Wolff

1           **Q. Yes. Well, no, it says the Crave series.**

2           A. I know. For Crave the first book, I created with  
3 much input from Liz the plot. For Crush, I created a  
4 synopsis of approximately the first half of the book.  
5 Liz Pelletier created the synopsis for the rest of the  
6 book.

7                   For Covet, Liz Pelletier created the synopsis.  
8 For Crave, there was not, to the best of my  
9 recollection, a full synopsis of the book. What there  
10 was --

11           **Q. For which book are we talking about?**

12           A. For Court. I'm sorry if I misspoke. For Court,  
13 there was not, to the best of my recollection, a full  
14 synopsis for the book. But what there was, Liz  
15 Pelletier -- Liz Pelletier wrote, but we spoke and  
16 brainstormed over Court a lot because it was a difficult  
17 book.

18           **Q. Why was it so difficult?**

19           A. At the time we wrote it, we thought we were  
20 wrapping up the series as we were brainstorming for it.  
21 And I think we were both a little intimidated by that.

22           **Q. And what's the relationship between the synopsis**  
23 **and the book?**

24           A. The relationship between the synopsis and the  
25 book is that the book tends to follow -- the synopsis is

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Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 the basic plot line of the book. The book tends to  
2 follow that plot to a certain extent.

3 Q. What do you mean by a certain extent?

4 A. Any synopsis I have ever written or Liz has  
5 written, I have deviated from in small ways because you  
6 go as the book calls you.

7 Q. All right. With respect to the synopsis for  
8 Crave, how long was that synopsis?

9 A. I have no recollection. I'm not -- I don't -- I  
10 don't know if it was just a couple of pages of the notes  
11 that you've already shown me -- shown or if it was  
12 longer.

13 Q. So it could be only a couple of pages?

14 A. I don't know. I don't remember.

15 Q. But you're saying -- how long is a synopsis  
16 usually?

17 A. Synopses can be anywhere from 2 pages to 100  
18 pages. It just depends on the writer and the book.

19 Q. And you have no recollection on how long the one  
20 in Crave was?

21 A. I do not.

22 Q. Does it still exist today?

23 A. If there was one that was longer than the pages  
24 of notes, I would imagine that it would, but I don't  
25 have a recollection of -- the way I -- the way I have a

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Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 severe -- like, I have an actual recollection of writing  
2 the first half -- or the first part of the synopsis for  
3 Crush and then Liz looking it over and writing the rest  
4 because she didn't like it, because she had a dream,  
5 because any number, you know? I don't remember if there  
6 is an actual synopsis the same way there was for Crush  
7 and Covet. If there was for Crave, I do not remember  
8 that.

9 Q. All right. So you don't remember if there was  
10 one for Crave, but didn't you say you created the plot.  
11 Right?

12 A. For Crave?

13 Q. Yes.

14 A. I created a lot of the plot points. As the back  
15 and forth, we've looked at all afternoon shows, Liz was  
16 very involved with everything from where it was  
17 eventually set, not in Barrow, Alaska, to very involved  
18 in the uncle and, you know, the main idea of who these  
19 characters were and, like, as archetypes and wanting --  
20 certainly inciting incidents of wanting her to go to the  
21 school and her parents being dead or not around, I don't  
22 remember exactly.

23 Very involved in she wanted Jaxon to not be  
24 perfect, which is where the scar on his face came from  
25 and several other things. She told me during editing

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Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 that there was -- she thought there was a scene missing  
2 for example. I think more than that she told me she did  
3 not like the meet cute and I had to rewrite the meet  
4 cute again.

5 And then I think the secondary, second half of it  
6 when I was writing it where everything happens with Lia,  
7 I believe that was -- I believe I remember, but I don't  
8 know how many notes she had before I wrote the draft,  
9 particularly of the second half of how everything  
10 unfolds.

11 Q. Did Liz put any of these -- any of this input in  
12 writing other than what you've seen today?

13 A. I don't remember. I don't. I don't recall. I  
14 know that she and Stacy e-mailed back and forth or  
15 talked. I know that I had several long conversations  
16 with her.

17 Q. And what about Crush? How long was the synopsis  
18 in Crush?

19 A. I don't remember.

20 Q. But you wrote the first half?

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. How long was the first half you wrote?

23 A. I don't know.

24 Q. Do you still have it?

25 A. I believe if I do have it, it would be in the

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Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 documents that you received.

2 Q. So in other words -- well, was it one of the  
3 documents we saw today?

4 A. It was not one of the documents that we saw  
5 today.

6 Q. Okay. I haven't seen the synopsis, but you think  
7 if -- if you had it, it was produced?

8 A. If I had it, it would've been produced.

9 Q. And then you said you wrote the first half. Did  
10 anyone finish it?

11 A. Liz Pelletier. Are we speaking of the synopsis?

12 Q. Yes.

13 A. Liz Pelletier finished the synopsis.

14 Q. How long was the part she wrote?

15 A. I have no idea.

16 Q. Have you seen that today in any of the documents?

17 A. I have not seen it today in any of the documents.

18 Q. Do you know if it's been produced?

19 A. I have no idea if it's been produced. I know  
20 that we had a long phone conversation and I took many  
21 notes on the second half of the book based on that phone  
22 conversation.

23 MR. PASSIN: I'm sorry, can you read that  
24 last thing back?

25 (Previous answer read back.)



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Tracy Wolff

1 today.

2 Q. All right. Is the following a correct sentence  
3 -- a true sentence? The Crave book series was a  
4 collaborative project with Pelletier providing to Wolff  
5 in the writing the main plot, location, characters and  
6 scenes?

7 A. May I see that? Oh, it's in front of me, I'm  
8 sorry.

9 Q. That's in the third paragraph, it's down three  
10 lines. Three and -- lines three and four.

11 A. The Crave series was a collaborative project with  
12 Pelletier. It absolutely was a collaborative project  
13 with Pelletier. Providing to Wolff in writing the main  
14 plot, location, characters and scenes.

15 Q. That's not true. Is it?

16 A. She provided -- there were the text messages --  
17 the messages and the e-mails that we saw.

18 Q. The messages --

19 A. Again, I don't --

20 Q. Wait, wait, stop. We didn't see any messages and  
21 e-mails. What we saw -- well, we saw some things from  
22 Stacy. Okay. So you're saying that was the things we  
23 saw from Stacy?

24 A. The lines that Liz wrote in those things from  
25 Stacy.

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Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1       Q. Right, yeah, but did that include the plot,  
2 location, characters and scenes? I don't think so.

3               MR. GOETZEL: Object to the form. That's  
4 not a question. You're arguing with the witness.

5       A. I don't remember --

6               MR. GOETZEL: Hold on, hold on.

7               THE WITNESS: Sorry.

8               MR. GOETZEL: Please don't argue with the  
9 witness.

10       A. I don't remember -- I don't remember what was  
11 provided in writing and what was oral.

12       Q. (By Mr. Passin) So as you sit here, you're saying  
13 you cannot tell me whether the sentence, Pelletier  
14 provided to Wolff in writing the main plot, location,  
15 characters and scenes is true or false. Is that  
16 correct?

17       A. I do not remember what was provided in writing  
18 and what was over the -- over orally, over the phone.

19       Q. Have you ever read all or a portion of Masked?

20               MR. GOETZEL: Objection, asked and answered.  
21 You can answer it again, but...

22       A. I have never read any portion of Masked.

23       Q. (By Mr. Passin) Has anyone ever sent you all or  
24 any portion of Masked?

25       A. No one has ever sent me any portion of Masked.

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 Q. Has anyone ever sent you any language from  
2 Masked?

3 A. No one has any sent me any language from Masked.

4 Q. Has anyone ever communicated to you all or any  
5 portion of the contents of Masked?

6 A. No one has ever communicated -- or I'm sorry.  
7 Can you repeat the question?

8 Q. Has anyone ever communicated to you all or any  
9 portion of the contents of Masked?

10 A. No one has ever communicated to me.

11 Q. Have you ever discussed any of the contents of  
12 Masked with Emily Kim?

13 A. No, I have not.

14 Q. Have you ever discussed any of the contents of  
15 Masked with Liz Pelletier?

16 A. I have not.

17 Q. Have you ever discussed any of the contents of  
18 Masked with Stacy Abrams?

19 A. I have not.

20 Q. Have you ever discussed any of the contents of  
21 Masked with anyone?

22 A. I have not.

23 Q. Have you ever discussed any of the language from  
24 Masked with Emily Kim?

25 A. Any -- I have not.

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 Q. Have you ever discussed any of the language with  
2 Masked with Liz Pelletier?

3 A. I have not.

4 Q. Have you ever discussed any of the language from  
5 Masked with Stacy Abrams?

6 A. I have not.

7 Q. Have you ever discussed any of the language with  
8 Masked with anyone?

9 A. I have not.

10 Q. Have you ever had in your possession a partial or  
11 a complete copy of Masked?

12 A. I have not.

13 Q. Did you ever discuss Lynne Freeman with Emily  
14 Kim?

15 A. I have spoken to Emily Kim about Lynne Freeman  
16 after the February 7th letter because I did not know who  
17 she was.

18 Q. How many times have you spoken with her?

19 A. Since the February 7th letter?

20 Q. Yes.

21 A. Several times.

22 Q. And let's take the first time. Who else was  
23 present besides the two of you?

24 A. I was on a phone call with her.

25 Q. And no one else was on the call?

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 A. At some point, I believe Liz Pelletier was also  
2 on the call.

3 Q. And when did this call take place?

4 A. I -- the -- I believe the day they got -- that  
5 Emily got the letter of -- the February 7th letter.

6 Q. And describe for me as best you can what everyone  
7 said in that conversation.

8 MR. GOETZEL: Hold on one second. I just  
9 want to object to make sure if there weren't any  
10 attorneys on the phone call. If there were --

11 THE WITNESS: There were no attorneys on the  
12 phone call.

13 MR. GOETZEL: Okay. Then you can answer.

14 A. I said, I have no idea who Lynne Freeman is. Why  
15 is she suing me or whatever this is? Emily told me she  
16 was a former client of hers. I was -- honestly, I was  
17 in complete shock. I had no idea what manuscript they  
18 were referring to. I had no idea of what person they  
19 were referring to, and I believe I kept asking, Who is  
20 this person? What is this -- what is this book? Who is  
21 this person? I've -- I don't know anything about this.

22 Q. (By Mr. Passin) And what did Emily say on the  
23 call?

24 A. Emily told me Lynne Freeman was a former client  
25 of hers.

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1           **Q. Anything else?**

2           A. She told me -- I don't remember exactly what she  
3 told me. To put this in context, my mother died that  
4 week and a lot of that week is a blur to me.

5           **Q. I'm sorry to hear that.**

6           A. Thank you. I was -- I had -- that morning, I had  
7 been told that she would be dying in the next week or  
8 so, and I remember very little of that week.

9           **Q. Do you recall what Liz Pelletier said in the**  
10 **conversation?**

11          A. I believe Liz's answers were very similar to  
12 mine. I have no idea who Lynne Freeman is. I have no  
13 idea what this manuscript is. What is going on? What  
14 is happening? I believe that is the gist of the entire  
15 conversation.

16          **Q. All right. And what about the second**  
17 **conversation you had regarding Lynne Freeman? When did**  
18 **that take place?**

19          A. I don't remember if it was that week or the next  
20 week. Again, that week is very much a blur for me. My  
21 mother died on Thursday morning.

22          **Q. I apologize. I still have to go through the**  
23 **questions.**

24          A. Yeah, I just -- I honestly do not remember  
25 because I was very fixated on the fact that my mother

Confidential

Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 was dying down the hall from my office and...

2 Q. And do you recall what anyone said during that --  
3 was that a phone call again?

4 A. It would not have been in person as Emily lives  
5 in New Jersey.

6 Q. So was it just you and Emily or was someone else  
7 on the call?

8 A. I believe it would've been just Emily and me and  
9 I believe -- almost every time that we have spoken  
10 follows the same pattern. This is so unfair, we didn't  
11 do this, I have no idea why anyone would think that I  
12 would do this. I've never copied anything in my life  
13 from anybody else. I don't know why Lynne Freeman would  
14 think that I would do this.

15 Q. All right. Do you recall anything else said on  
16 that call or was that it?

17 A. No, I mean, that tends to be the gist of our  
18 conversations about Lynne Freeman.

19 Q. And I thought there was a third conversation?  
20 When did that take place?

21 A. There have been several conversations over the  
22 course of the year and they all follow the same  
23 situation, the same scenario. This is not fair, I don't  
24 understand why it's happening. I don't understand why  
25 she would think that I would do this. I don't remember

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 meeting this woman. This is so unfair.

2 Q. All right. So did you --

3 A. I've never read this book, I've never heard of  
4 this book. That's what the conversations tend to be.

5 Q. Have you told me now everything you discussed  
6 about Lynne Freeman with Liz Pelletier?

7 A. Pretty much the same gist. This doesn't make  
8 sense. We've never done this. Why would we do this?  
9 We totally created this series all by ourselves.

10 Q. Did you ever discuss Lynne Freeman with Stacy  
11 Abrams?

12 MR. GOETZEL: Again, sorry, object. What  
13 timeframe are you talking about or referring to?

14 MR. PASSIN: Ever, ever.

15 A. I don't believe that we've ever discussed Lynne  
16 -- I believe we spoke when we met -- when we -- at some  
17 point in Chicago. I think I said, Oh, my gosh, this  
18 lawsuit is a nightmare. I can't even believe this is  
19 happening and she's just, like, You didn't do anything.  
20 It's going to be fine. You didn't do anything.

21 Q. And when did that conversation take place?

22 A. Whatever date I was signing in Chicago, which  
23 would've been in December.

24 Q. December of last year?

25 A. December of 2022.



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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1           **Q.   Okay.   And --**

2                   MR. GOETZEL:   Excuse me just a second.   I'm  
3   curious, the -- are you recording this by phone or --

4                   MR. BAER:   Oh, no.   No.   There's no --

5                   MR. GOETZEL:   Yeah, I meant to ask when you  
6   had it set up vertically like you were recording us.

7                   MR. BAER:   Yeah, sometimes my office will  
8   text me and I have no -- there's no recording going.  
9   There's no --

10                  MR. GOETZEL:   Okay, thanks.

11           **Q.   (By Mr. Passin) Was anyone else present during**  
12 **that conversation in Chicago?**

13           A.   I don't remember.

14           **Q.   Did you ever discuss Lynne Freeman with anyone**  
15 **else other than what you just discussed with me the last**  
16 **ten minutes?**

17           A.   I have discussed Lynne Freeman with my fiancée.

18           **Q.   And what did you discuss with your fiancée?**

19           A.   Exactly the same thing.   I don't understand how  
20 she could possibly think that I would do this.   I've  
21 never seen her book.   I've never heard of her book.   I  
22 would never steal from anybody.

23           **Q.   How many YA books set in Alaska are you aware of?**

24           A.   I have no idea.

25           **Q.   Are you aware of any?**

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 A. Crave.

2 Q. Do you know anyone from Alaska?

3 A. I know that I've met people from Alaska, but do I  
4 know somebody closely from Alaska? I do not believe so.

5 Q. Whose idea was it to use Alaska as a setting for  
6 the Crave book series?

7 MR. GOETZEL: Objection, asked and answered.  
8 You can answer it again.

9 A. It was my idea to set a paranormal in Alaska.  
10 And Emily Sylvan Kim was excited about the idea of  
11 setting a paranormal in Alaska for my book and Liz  
12 Pelletier had just come back I from a cruise and was  
13 also very excited about using Alaska because she was  
14 very excited about her cruise.

15 Q. (By Mr. Passin) All right. Now, I may have asked  
16 you and if I did I apologize, so why did you think  
17 Alaska would be a good setting for the Crave book  
18 series?

19 A. Because it is dark, because there is civil  
20 twilight, because vampires do well in darker climates  
21 that are not sunshiny, because there was a line from a  
22 documentary called The Art of Flight and they had made  
23 the comment, one of the snowboarders, I do not remember  
24 which one, had made the comment that they were walking  
25 in a place where no human beings had ever walked or

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 something to that effect. And it just stayed with me  
2 and I always thought, that would be a really cool place  
3 to set something where paranormals that didn't want to  
4 be around humans or, like, giant dragons could fly free.

5 Q. I would like to mark next as Exhibit 48

6 Declaration of Tracy Deebs Elkenaney p/k/a Tracy Wolff.

7 (Exhibit Number 48 was marked.)

8 Q. (By Mr. Passin) First question is, is that your  
9 signature on Page 6?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Okay. And you recall signing this on or about  
12 March 2, 2023?

13 A. I do, yes.

14 Q. Okay. Turn to Paragraph 7. At the end --  
15 towards the end of the paragraph, you say, I e-mailed  
16 Mrs. Abrams on March 16, 2010 telling her that I thought  
17 Tempest Rising was a better title than riptide or  
18 Tempest. Do you see that?

19 A. I do.

20 Q. Do you have a copy of that e-mail?

21 A. I saw the e-mail when I wrote this, yes.

22 Q. You saw the e-mail when you wrote it? So did you  
23 turn that over to your counsel?

24 A. I told my counsel about it and I know that they  
25 had Ben Rose, the e-vendor, come into my computer and

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Freeman vs.  
Deeks

Tracy Wolff

1 to the status of the synopsis?

2 A. About the synopsis, specifically about the  
3 synopsis.

4 MR. PASSIN: Can we go off the record for  
5 one minute?

6 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are now going off the  
7 record. The time is 4:13 p.m.

8 (Brief recess.)

9 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This is Media 6. We're  
10 now back on the record at 4:27 p.m.

11 DIRECT EXAMINATION (cont'd.)

12 BY MR. PASSIN:

13 Q. All right. Do you know how many cards in a tarot  
14 deck?

15 A. Off the top of my head? No.

16 Q. Okay. Which tarot cards were used in the Crave  
17 series?

18 A. There was only one tarot card used in the Crave  
19 series.

20 Q. And which one was that?

21 A. And I don't remember what it is. I remember that  
22 it was a joke because it was done by a troll, he was  
23 trolling her. I believe it was, like, whatever the  
24 worst tarot card is.

25 Q. And you used it as a joke?

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

Tracy Wolff

1 A. I did use it as a joke.

2 Q. Explain to me the joke.

3 A. I used it in the prison and it was at the bottom  
4 level. And Remy was walking Grace around and showing  
5 them, you know, all these different things in the bottom  
6 of the prison.

7 And he brought Grace in and said, Hey, why don't  
8 you do a tarot -- I -- this is roughly paraphrasing.  
9 Why don't you do a tarot card reading of, you know,  
10 whatever, get a tarot card or whatever. Well, the guy  
11 pulling it was a troll, and the whole concept is you're  
12 being trolled. Have you heard of that term?

13 Q. Yes.

14 A. She was being trolled. So the troll gave her a  
15 -- like, a really bad card. And she started -- you  
16 know, she was, like, a little nervous and then she  
17 realized the joke and she and Remy kind of laugh about  
18 it.

19 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Counselor, your  
20 microphone.

21 Q. (By Mr. Passin) And why'd you put that in the  
22 book?

23 A. Because I thought it was a funny joke.

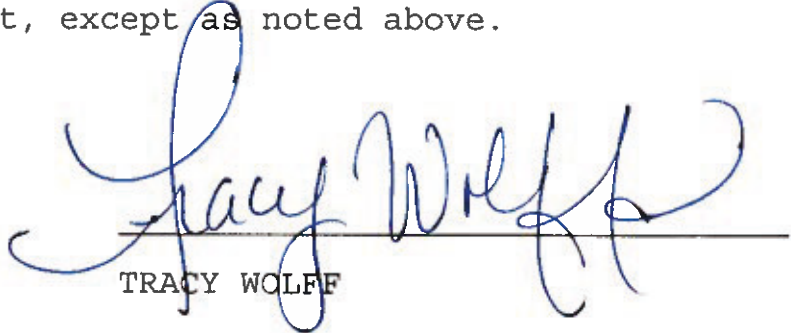
24 Q. Has Emily Kim ever requested you send drafts or  
25 manuscripts as RTF rich text files?

Tracy Wolff

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

1 I, TRACY WOLFF, have read the foregoing  
 2 deposition and hereby affix my signature that same is  
 3 true and correct, except as noted above.

4  
 5  
 6  
 7  
  
 TRACY WOLFF

8 THE STATE OF TEXAS)

9 COUNTY OF TRAVIS)

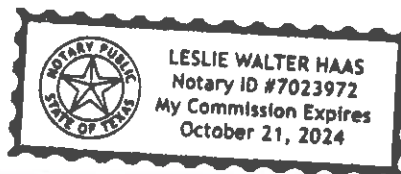
10 Before me, Leslie Walter Haas, on this  
 11 day personally appeared TRACY WOLFF, known to me (or  
 12 proved to me under oath or through Driver License)  
 13 (description of identity card or other document) to be  
 14 the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing  
 15 instrument and acknowledged to me that they executed the  
 16 same for the purposes and consideration therein  
 17 expressed.

18 Given under my hand and seal of office this  
 19 23rd day of March, 2023.

20  
 21  


22 Notary Public in and for

23 The State of Texas



Tracy Wolff

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Freeman vs.  
Deebs

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
2 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

3 LYNNE FREEMAN, )  
4 AN INDIVIDUAL )  
5 PLAINTIFF, )  
6 VS. )  
7 TRACY DEEBS-ELKENANEY )  
8 P/K/A TRACY WOLFF, AN )  
9 INDIVIDUAL, EMILY SYLVAN )  
10 KIM, AN INDIVIDUAL, )  
11 PROSPECT AGENCY, LLC, A )  
12 NEW JERSEY LIMITED )  
13 LIABILITY COMPANY, )  
14 ENTANGLED PUBLISHING, )  
15 LLC, A DELAWARE LIMITED )  
16 LIABILITY COMPANY, )  
17 HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, )  
18 LLC D/B/A MACMILLAN, )  
19 A NEW YORK LIMITED )  
20 LIABILITY COMPANY, AND )  
21 UNIVERSAL CITY STUDIOS, )  
22 LLC, A DELAWARE )  
23 LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY )  
24 DEFENDANTS. )

CASE NO. 1:22-CV-02435-LLS

15 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATION  
16 DEPOSITION OF TRACY WOLFF  
17 March 07, 2023

18 I, Gabriela S. Silva, Certified Shorthand  
19 Reporter in and for the State of Texas, hereby certify  
20 to the following:

21 That the witness, TRACY WOLFF, was duly sworn by  
22 the officer and that the transcript of the oral  
23 deposition is a true record of the testimony given by  
24 the witness;

25 I further certify that pursuant to FRCP Rule  
30(f)(1) that the signature of the deponent:

26   X   was requested by the deponent or a party before  
27 the completion of the deposition and that the signature  
28 is to be before any notary public and returned within  
29 30 days from date of receipt of the transcript. If  
30 returned, the attached Changes and Signature Page  
contains any changes and the reasons therefor;

Tracy Wolff

Confidential

Freeman vs.  
Deebs

1 \_\_\_\_\_ was not requested by the deponent or a party  
2 before the completion of the deposition.

3 I further certify that I am neither counsel for,  
4 related to, nor employed by any of the parties or  
5 attorney in the action in which this proceeding was  
6 taken, and further that I am not financially or  
7 otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.

8  
9 Certified to by me this 13th day of  
10 March, 2023.

11  
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Gabriela S. Silva, Texas CSR(8706), RPR  
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